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Jon Parker
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Systems & Networks
Ofgem
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27 March 2019

Dear Jon

Electricity Time to Connect Incentive Targets consultation for Regulatory Years 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23

We are responding to this consultation given the high importance that timely connections make to the good functioning of the electricity distribution network, particularly in light of the need for increased flexibility and demand side response solutions.

Question 1: Do you agree with the methodology we propose to use to set the new targets?

We agree that the methodology which was previously used to set the incentive targets for the first four years in the RIIO-ED1 price control does appear to have driven improvements for connections in time to quote and time to connect. We recognise that setting the next set of targets for the following Regulatory Years based on the previous methodology does have apparent drawbacks in compressing the range and in potentially dis-incentivising some DNOs from striving to achieve the reward as it may appear unachievable. As such, we support the changed methodology for the remainder of the RIIO-ED1 price control period which should

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Charity registration number 279057 VAT number 726 0202 76 Company limited by guarantee Registered number 1436945 England
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still drive improvements in time to quote and time to connect for connections for smaller consumers.

Question 2: Do you agree that it is beneficial to maintain a good range between the minimum and maximum reward scores to ensure the incentive is effective?

We agree that it is beneficial to maintain a good range between the minimum and maximum reward scores to appropriately incentivise companies without enabling companies to reach the maximum reward score too readily.

Question 3: Do you agree with our minded-to position in setting these targets?

We agree with your minded-to position in setting these targets as we believe that they will provide a suitable incentive to distribution network operators to continue to improve connections' performance for the benefit of consumers.

Yours sincerely

Stew Horne

Principal Policy Manager, Energy Networks and System